estimated cost of the project is Rs. 5352.50 crore with mega status. The debt to equity ratio of the project will be 70:30. The equity participation will be 74% (Rs.1186.26 crore) by NTPC and 26% (Rs.417.5 crore) by Railways. It is estimated that this will save Rs. 400 to Rs. 600 crore per annum of electricity bill of Railways.

Pending proposals for introduction of new trains

922. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many proposals for introduction of new trains are pending with his Ministry in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh made certain proposals;

(c) if so, the details of those proposals; and

(d) the criterion for introduction of new trains and on what ground the proposals received from the State of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh are not being accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) 5 pairs of new train services announced in Railway Budgets 2005-06 and 2006-07 are pending for introduction.

(b) and (c) Requests for introduction of new train services are received at various levels *viz.* division level, headquarter level and Railway Board level. These requests are received throughout the year and action as feasible and justified is taken.

(d) Introduction of new passenger services depends upon traffic justification, availability of resources and operational feasibility including line capacity and terminal constraints. In the Railway Budget 2008-09, 20 pairs & 6 pairs of new trains serving the States of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan respectively have been announced.

Model stations in Jharkhand

†923. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to develop certain railway stations of the country as model stations on international level;

(b) if so, whether any station of the Jharkhand State has been included in it;

(c) if so, the names thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Government has decided to re-develop 24 railway stations in metro and mini metro cities as world class stations.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.